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Debunking Trump Tweets: Biden's 143K Vote 'Dump' in Wisconsin

Voting spikes did occur in Wisconsin and other states as ballots were being counted, but for ordinary and predictable reasons.

DAVID MIKKELSON

PUBLISHED 18 NOVEMBER 2020

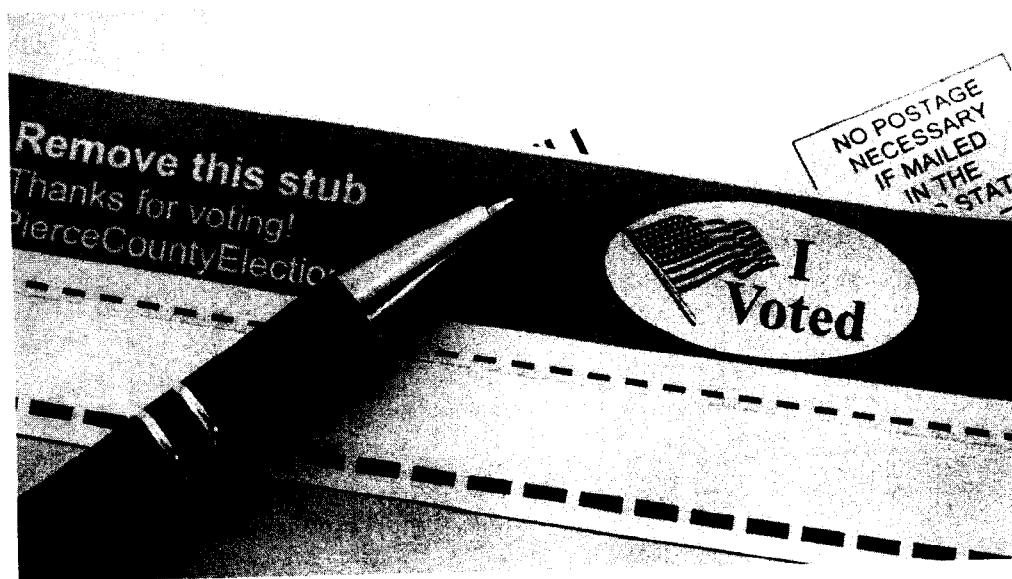


Image via Getty Images



Claim

Joe Biden received a fraudulent 'dump' of 143K ballots in Wisconsin in the early morning hours after Election Day 2020.

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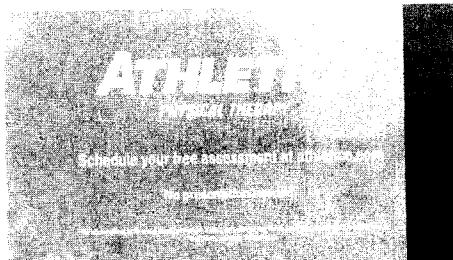


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Origin

In the continuous stream of tweets alleging election fraud issued from the

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Twitter account of President Donald Trump in mid-November 2020, one tweet posted in the evening of Nov. 18 claimed that victorious Democratic presidential candidate had received an “unbelievable” “dump of 143,379 votes at 3:42AM, when they learned he was losing badly”:

Donald J. Trump 
@realDonaldTrump



Look at this in Wisconsin! A day AFTER the election, Biden receives a dump of 143,379 votes at 3:42AM, when they learned he was losing badly. This is unbelievable!

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7:22 PM · Nov 18, 2020



369.9K 192K people are Tweeting about this

It is true that Biden picked up about 149,000 votes in Wisconsin around 3:30 AM in the early morning hours following the election, thereby erasing a lead Trump had held in the in-progress vote tally up to that point:



Parts of Brown and Kenosha counties still have to report votes, but as things stand, Biden leads by 0.22 percentage points statewide in Wisconsin, 49.25 percent to 49.03 percent, according to ABC News.

53eig.ht/386INQh

5:57 AM · Nov 4, 2020



 582  150 people are Tweeting about this

However, no fraudulent activity of furtive “dump” of ballots was behind this phenomenon. By law, Wisconsin was not allowed to begin tabulating absentee ballots (no matter how early they were sent in) until 7:00 AM on

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Election Day. Biden's vote count took a big jump (while Trump's increased much more modestly) around the time in question because that was when Milwaukee County finished and reported the tabulation of its approximately 170,000 absentee ballots. That occurrence was doubly favorable for Biden, both because Democrats were **far more likely** to vote via absentee ballots, and because Milwaukee County is the most populous county in Wisconsin and is an overwhelmingly Democratic area:

County	MARGIN	2016 margin	Est. votes reported	Total votes
Milwaukee	Biden +40	D+36.9	>95%	458,971
Dane	Biden +53	D+47.3	>98%	344,791

The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel **reported** on the bulge in Biden votes, and the reasons behind it, at the time it took place:

Biden overtook Trump in the early morning hours when Milwaukee reported its roughly 170,000 absentee votes, which were overwhelmingly Democratic. Then early morning returns from Green Bay and Kenosha on Wednesday added to his slender lead.

Trump had nurtured a lead of more than 100,000 votes before those returns came in.

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By the morning after the election, even Trump had recognized (if not accepted) the phenomenon of mail-in ballots in most states being heavily Democratic, in large part because he discouraged his supporters from using that method of voting:

Donald J. Trump @realDonaldTrump



How come every time they count Mail-In ballot dumps they are so devastating in their percentage and power of destruction?

9:17 AM · Nov 4, 2020



548.6K 194.1K people are Tweeting about this

In fact, more than two months before the election, NPR had **observed** that "President Trump's campaign to discourage the use of mail-in voting this fall is raising concerns among Republicans, particularly in the key swing state of Wisconsin, that his efforts could hinder their party on election night."

As of this writing, Biden has won Wisconsin (and its 10 electoral votes) by just over 20,000 votes out of more than 3.2M ballots cast:

Candidates	Vote %	Vote count
Joe Biden Democratic Party	49.6%	1,630,673
Donald Trump Republican Party	48.9%	1,610,065
Jo Jorgensen Libertarian Party	1.2%	38,491
Brian Carroll American Solidarity Party	0.2%	5,258
Don Blankenship Constitution Party	0.2%	5,144

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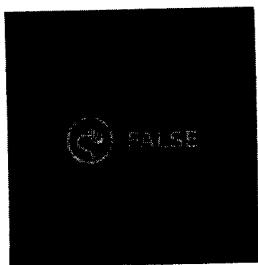
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